

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 DODE-00 CU-02 SAJ-01

BIB-01 PA-01 PRS-01 EB-07 IO-10 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 /070 W

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O R 251226Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8224

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03094

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, US, UK, UR, FR

SUBJECT: SOVIET STATEMENT ON EC VOCATIONAL CENTER

REF: A) STATE 38043; B) BONN 2755 AND PREVIOUS

SUMMARY: AD REF AGREEMENT FOR RECOMMENDATION TO CAPITALS
REACHED ON SECOND REVISE OF DRAFT REPLY TO SOVIET EC
VOCATIONAL CENTER COMMUNICATION OF FEB 6. CHANGES WERE
OCCASIONED BY QUAI'S PROBLEMS WITH PREVIOUS TEXT, BUT
FRG ELEVATION OF MATTER TO POLITICAL DIRECTOR LEVEL
RESULTED IN ADDITIONAL DELAY. END SUMMARY.

1. AT BONN GROUP MEETINGS FEB 21 AND FEB 24 FRENCH REP
(BOISSIEU) REPORTED HIS AUTHORITIES HAD DIFFICULTIES
WITH FIFTH LINE PARA 2 OF AD REF TEXT TRANSMITTED REFTEL
B, WHICH READ: "THE QA IN NO WAY AFFECTED THE EXISTING
SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE APPLICATION OF EC TREATIES
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IN THE WSB." BOISSIEU SAID THIS LANGUAGE POTENTIALLY

DANGEROUS TO ALLIES SINCE THERE WAS NO "EXISTING SITUATION" PRIOR TO QA. RATHER, AN "EXISTING SITUATION" CAME INTO BEING WHEN QA WENT INTO EFFECT. ADDITIONAL PROBLEM IS THAT THIS PHRASE IS USED IN PRESENT AD REF TEXT IN TWO DIFFERENT WAYS (COMPARE WITH USAGE IN LAST LINE PARA 2). AD REF AGREEMENT THEN WAS REACHED ON MODIFIED SENTENCE WHICH READS: "THE QA HAS IN NO WAY AFFECTED APPLICATION OF EC TREATIES IN THE WSB." REPS AGREED THAT MODIFIED SENTENCE AVOIDED PROBLEMS NOTED BY QUAI AND, PARTICULARLY WHEN SEEN IN CONTEXT OF PRECEDING SENTENCE, WAS ACCURATE STATEMENT OF FACT. BOISSIEU REQUESTED ALSO THAT REPS AGREE TO RECOMMEND DELETION OF WORDS IN PARA 3 SENTENCE 2 "AND OPERATION." OTHER REPS READILY AGREED.

2. AGREEMENT ON REVISIONS WAS DELAYED FROM FEB 21 BONN GROUP SESSION TO FEB 24 MEETING BY FRG ELEVATION OF MATTER TO POLITICAL DIRECTOR LEVEL. BONN GROUP WAS INFORMED BY FRG REPS FEB 21 THAT VAN WELL (THEN IN PARIS FOR EC POLITICAL DIRECTORS MEETING) WAS RAISING SUBJECT THERE ON BILATERAL BASIS WITH FRENCH AND BONN GROUP CONSIDERATION SAME DAY WOULD THUS BE PURPOSELESS. US AND FRENCH REPS ARGUED AT FEB 21 MEETING THAT PRECISE WORDING OF DRAFT NOT LIKELY TO BE RESOLVED DURING TALKS IN PARIS AND CONSIDERATION OF TEXT SHOULD PROCEED; HOWEVER, ITEM WAS EFFECTIVELY PUT OFF TO FEB 24 BONN GROUP SESSION.

3. COMMENT AND ACTION REQUESTED: FRG ACTION AT POLITICAL DIRECTOR LEVEL APPARENTLY THE RESULT OF TOP-LEVEL FRG FOREIGN OFFICE NERVOUSNESS OVER WHAT SEEMED TO BE UNNECESSARY DELAY IN REACHING AGREED TEXT FOR REPLY. AS IT TURNED OUT, FRG INITIATIVE ONLY DELAYED MATTER FURTHER.

REGARDING TEXT, RECOMMEND DEPT AGREE FOR DELIVERY ASAP IN BERLIN. OUR COMMENTS ON CHANGE IN PARA 2 OF TEXT ARE GIVEN ABOVE. RE PARA 3 CHANGE, IT APPEARS THAT QUAI, ON REFLECTION, AGREED WITH VIEWS OF OTHERS (AND OF FRENCH EMBASSY HERE) THAT WORDS CONFIDENTIAL

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"AND OPERATION" WERE ILL-ADVISED BECAUSE (A) THEY ARE OVERLY DEFENSIVE AND (B) ARE GRATUITOUS SINCE SOVIETS DO NOT ADDRESS THIS POINT IN THEIR COMMUNICATION OF FEB 6. HILLENBRAND

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